

YOUTH PLAY

April 19, 2009

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|-------------------------------|---|--------|
| JESUS | - | Kyle |
| Peter / Roman 1 | - | Lonnie |
| John / Roman 2 | - | Kassie |
| Priest / Roman 3 | - | Zack |
| Pilate | - | Nick |
| Centurion 1 | - | Brad |
| Condemned Man 1 | - | Nick |
| Centurion 2 / Condemned Man 2 | - | Taylor |
| Mary | - | Dez |
| Devil (Voice) | - | Paul |
| Voices | - | All |
| Citizen | - | Tyler |

The Crucifixion

(Scene 1)

(Opens with 3 Disciples sleeping under a tree.)

Jesus – walks in and looks around. Walks up to Peter and shakes him to wake up the three.

Jesus: Peter, couldn't you even watch with me one hour?

(3 stand)

Peter: (says in a scared voice) Master, what happened to you?

John: Should I tell the others?

Jesus: No John. I don't want them to see Me like this.

Peter: Are You in danger? Should we run Master?

Jesus: No. Stay. Watch

(Jesus walks away to center stage while the Disciples talk amongst themselves.)

Jesus – *(falling to His knees in prayer)*

Hear Me, Father. Rise up and defend Me from the dangers ahead.

Devil – *(In a very quiet voice)*

Do You really believe that one Man can forgive all sin?

Jesus – Shelter Me, O, Lord. I trust in You. In You I take refuge.

Devil – No one Man can carry this burden. It's way too much. Saving their souls, it costs too much. No One, ever. No! Never!

Jesus – Father, You can do it all. If possible, take this cup from Me, but let Your will be done, not Mine!
(Stand)

(Disciples walk over to Jesus as He stands up.)

(Enter Centurion #1 and 2 from backstage to center stage.)

Jesus – *(talking to Centurion #1)* Who are you looking for?

Centurion 1 – Jesus of Nazareth.

Jesus – That's Me.

(As Centurions get closer, John and the disciples are backstage and Peter pushes the Centurions and pulls a knife and waves it. After about 10 seconds, the Centurions grab Peter to restrain him.)

Jesus – Peter! Put it down! Those who live by the sword die by the sword . . . Put it down.

(As Peter puts the knife down, John pushes him away and he runs backstage. The Centurions then slowly move towards Jesus then restrain Him – one on each arm. March down right aisle, across the back and up center aisle to left stage, as priest walks in to center stage. John, Peter, and Mary enter bottom door and watch from beside drums.)

Priest – You are Jesus of Nazareth? They say You are a King. Where is this Kingdom of yours? What line of kings do You descend from? . . . speak . . . Aren't You the son of a carpenter? Why don't You say something? You've been brought here as a trouble maker. What do You say to that? . . . Defend Yourself! . . .

Jesus – I speak to everyone. I taught in the temple we are in now. Ask those who heard Me.

Priest – Fine, we will listen to those who heard You.

ARGUING CROWD IN THE BACKGROUND

Voice #1 – He cures the sick with the help of devils! He casts out devils with devils!

Voice #2 – He calls Himself the King of the Jews.

Voice #3 – No. He calls Himself the Son of God!

Voice #4 – He said He would destroy the temple . . . and rebuild it in three days!

Voice #5 – He says He is the Bread of Life and if we don't eat His flesh or drink His blood we won't live forever!

Priest – *(talking to crowd)* Silence! You're all under His spell!

(talking to Jesus) Haven't You anything to say? Are You the Messiah? The Son of God?

Jesus – I Am. And you will see Me at the right hand of power and coming on clouds of Heaven.

Priest (to crowd) – You heard Him! He's guilty! What is your verdict?

CROWD BACKGROUND

Voice #6 – Death!

Voice #7 – Death!

Voice #8 – Death

(Peter walks slowly across front to get a better view. Centurions are beating Jesus as priest exits.)

Voice #9 – *(to Peter)* Haven't I seen You with Jesus? Yes, you are a disciple!

Peter *(looking to crowd)* – No. You are wrong. I don't know Him . . . *(walk a little further)*

Voice #10 – You are Peter! A friend of Jesus!

Peter *(looking to crowd)* – I am telling you that I do not know the Man!

Voice #11 – Stop him! He's one of them! It's Peter!

Peter *(yelling to crowd)* You are wrong, I never met that Man!

(Peter takes a 5 second pause to stare at Jesus then runs to John and Mary crying.)

Mary *(as Peter is running back)* Peter! Peter!

Peter *(falling to knees in front of Mary)* – I'm sorry! I denied Him 3 times. Just like He said *(sobbing)* I am not worthy. *(run backstage)*

(John and Mary exit backstage. Centurions then exit with Jesus.)

(Scene 2)

(Priest walks out by drum doors followed by the Centurions with Jesus. They walk up right aisle, across back, up center and stop in front of stage. While they come down center aisle, the Pilate comes to center stage, followed by 2 Romans, one stopping on each side of him.)

Pilate *(in an angry tone, talking to the priest)* What did this Man do?

Priest – If He didn't do anything, we wouldn't have brought Him to you.

Pilate – That's not what I asked. Why don't you judge Him on your own laws?

Priest – You know it's unlawful for us to condemn someone to death.

Pilate – Death? What did He do to deserve to die?

Priest – He violated the Sabbath Pilate. He seduced the people. Taught false teachings.

Pilate – Isn't He the prophet you welcomed just 5 days ago?

Priest – He also is the leader of a dangerous sect who claims Him the Son of David. He claims He is the Messiah. He has forbidden His followers to pay taxes.

Pilate – Bring Him near.

(Romans get Jesus and take Him BK stage with Pilate.)

Pilate *(to Romans)* GO!

(Romans walk back to center stage.)

ALL BACK STAGE

Pilate – Are You the King of the Jews?

Jesus – Is this from you or because that's what they say?

Pilate – Why would I ask you? I'm not a Jew. Your priest, your people, they brought You to me. They want You dead . . . Why?? Are You a king?

Jesus – My Kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my followers would not let them hand Me over.

Pilate – Then You are a King?

Jesus – That is why I was born. To give testimony of the truth.

(Romans come and take Jesus to center stage next to Pilate.)

Pilate *(to crowd)* I find no cause in the Prisoner. Take Him to King Herod. Let Herod judge Him.

(Romans give Jesus to Centurions. They follow priest back through center aisle doors. Pilate and Romans exit backstage.)

(Scene 3)

(Centurions and priest enter center aisle as Pilate and Romans enter to center stage.)

Priest *(to Pilate)* King Herod found no crime in Him.

Pilate – Well, neither do I

(Voice Crowd #1) (yelling) NO!

Priest – Crucify Him!

Voice Crowd #2 *(chant)* Crucify Him!

Pilate – No! *(PAUSE)* I will chastise Him! But then I will set Him free!

(Pilate exit backstage. Priest and Centurions exit drum door. Romans bring a platform to center stage to tie Jesus to it. (Romans then beat Jesus with rods 10 times each show) untie Jesus and put crown of thorns on His head.)

(Enter Pilate to center stage. Enter priest and Centurions in front of stage.)

Priest – Crucify Him!

Crowd– Crucify! Crucify! Crucify! Crucify! Crucify! *(5 times)*

Pilate – Isn't this enough? Look at Him!

Priest – Crucify Him!

Pilate *(to Jesus)* Speak to me. I have the power to crucify You or set You free!

Jesus – You have no power over Me except what is given from above. Therefore, it is He who delivered Me to you . . . who has the greater sin.

Pilate *(pause for a few seconds)* Roman!

Roman #1 *(walks to Pilate)* Yes Sir?

Pilate – Do as they wish.

(Pilate exits backstage, followed by Romans, with Jesus, Priest and Centurions. Exit drum door.)

(Scene 4)

(enter from drum door, going up right aisle. Roman 1 followed by Jesus, condemned 1 and 2. Each getting cross Followed by Roman 2, priest. Walk up right aisle, across back, down center aisle. During walk, stumble a lot. Fall a couple of times. Every time Jesus falls, Romans yell to get up. Half way through center aisle Jesus falls and Romans kick him 3 times. A citizen in a row about middle down center aisle. During whole march, sounds of crowd yelling.)

Roman 2 *(Pointing to Citizen)* You! Help Him! Carry His cross!

Citizen- Why me??

Roman 2 – He can't carry it anymore. Help Him! Now!

Citizen – I can't. It's none of my business. Get someone else. *(start walking away then stop)*

Roman 2 – Do as I say! Now! Go!

Citizen – Okay, but remember I am innocent, forced to carry His cross.

(Citizen walks over and helps carry cross rest of the way.)

Roman 2 *(On stage to Citizen)* You are free to go. *(Push Citizen away.)*

(Citizen exits backstage.)

(Romans tie Jesus and condemned men to cross to raise up.)

(Altogether tied) Condemned Man 1 *(to Jesus)* If you are the Son of God, then save Yourself. Prove that You are who You say You are.

Priest – You said You would destroy the temple and rebuild it in 3 days but You can't even get off that cross! If He's the Messiah then let Him come down from that cross!

Jesus *(looking up)* Father, forgive them. They know not what they do.

Condemned Man 2 *(to priest)* Listen, he prays for you. He prays for you.

Condemned Man 2 *(to condemned man 1)* We deserve this,– but He doesn't.

(to Jesus) I have sinned . . . and my punishment is just. You would be right in condemning me. I ask only that You remember me, Lord, when You enter Your Kingdom.

Jesus *(to condemned man 2)* Amen, I say to you, on this day you shall be with me in paradise.

(exit priest backstage. Romans just walk around, checking crosses.)

(Mary enters drum door, crying, looking at Jesus.)

(Enter Roman #3, walk around.)

(2 condemned men die.)

Mary *(walk up to Jesus' cross)* Flesh of my flesh, heart of my heart, my Son.

Jesus – Woman, behold your son. *(looking to sky)* My god, My God, why have You forsaken Me? It is accomplished. Father, into Your hands I commend my Spirit. *(Jesus dies.)*

(After a few seconds, Romans 1 and 3 get condemned men, then get Jesus and carry Him off stage. Everyone else follows. After 5 seconds, Jesus returns to center stage, alone, without crown, raising arms to sky and looking up.) (Someone holds up sign stating "Three Days Later.")

THE END